

Appendix 6 — Definitions and Acronyms

The definitions presented below were intended to help guide SOLEC 98 and encourage consistent use of terminology in order to achieve agreement on assessing the state of various components of the Great Lakes and measuring progress toward the purpose of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement (i.e., to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the waters of the Great Lakes Basin Ecosystem).

TERM	DEFINITION	EXAMPLE	REFERENCE
VISION	A general description of the desired state of a lake, geographical area, or bioregion that is expressed by a group of stakeholders. A vision statement provides a description of desired state — it provides direction and establishes a horizon to be sought.	The Grand Traverse Bay Watershed Initiative has established the following vision statement: <i>"The ecological integrity of the Grand Traverse Bay watershed will be sustained or restored to ensure regional economic viability and quality use by future generations."</i>	Grand Traverse Bay Watershed Initiative, 1102 Cass Street, Suite B, Traverse City, Michigan 49684; 616-935-1514
GOAL	A condition or state desired to be brought about through a course of action or program. They are usually qualitative statements that provide direction for plans and projects. Goals are not specific numerical limitations, but conditions or states which can be obtained through careful planning and implementation.	The water use goal for the fishery, established by the Hamilton Harbour Stakeholder Group, is <i>"that water quality and fish habitat should be improved to permit an edible, naturally-reproducing fishery for warmwater species, and water and habitat conditions in Hamilton Harbour should not limit natural reproduction and the edibility of cold water species."</i>	Hamilton Harbour Remedial Action Plan Writing Team. 1992. RAP for Hamilton Harbour. Goals, options, and recommendations. Volume 2, Main Report. Stage II Remedial Action Plan. Burlington, Ontario, 329 pp.
OBJECTIVE	Specific descriptions of the state or condition that must be met in order to achieve goals and the vision.	In Hamilton Harbour on western Lake Ontario, an objective is to shift from a fish community indicative of a eutrophic environment, such as white perch (<i>Morone americana</i>), alewife (<i>Alosa pseudoharengus</i>), bullheads (<i>Ictalurus</i> spp.), and carp (<i>Cyprinus carpio</i>), to a self-sustaining community more representative of a mesotrophic environment, containing northern pike (<i>Esox lucius</i>), bass (<i>Micropterus salmoides</i> and <i>M. dolomieu</i>), yellow perch (<i>Perca flavescens</i>), and sunfish (<i>Lepomis</i> spp.).	Hamilton Harbour Remedial Action Plan Writing Team. 1992. RAP for Hamilton Harbour. Goals, options, and recommendations. Volume 2, Main Report. Stage II Remedial Action Plan. Burlington, Ontario, 329 pp.

TERM	DEFINITION	EXAMPLE	REFERENCE
INDICATOR	The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development defines indicator as “a parameter, or a value derived from parameters, which points to, provides information about, or describes the state of a phenomenon / environment / area, with a significance extending beyond that directly associated with a parameter value.” In the context of the Great Lakes, it is a measurable feature or features that provide outcome-oriented, managerially and scientifically useful, evidence of environmental and ecosystem quality or reliable evidence of trends in quality.	Typically, there is a spectrum of outcome-oriented parameters which are monitored and collectively serve as an indicator. For example, parameters which collectively serve as an indicator for the fishery objective for Hamilton Harbour include: abundance of key species; sustainability of indigenous populations; presence of non-indigenous species; and rate of habitat loss and preservation.	Environment Canada and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. 1995. State of the Great Lakes . Toronto, Ontario, Chicago, Illinois, 56 pp.
PARAMETER or DATA POINT	A single measurable feature which provides information regarding the status and trend associated with that feature and can be combined with other parametric measurements to serve as an indicator.	Examples of parameters or data points which can collectively serve as indicators for the Hamilton Harbour fishery objective include quantitative measurements of populations of different species, population trends, amount and quality of littoral habitat, etc.	Hamilton Harbour Remedial Action Plan Writing Team. 1992. RAP for Hamilton Harbour. Goals, options, and recommendations. Volume 2, Main Report. Stage II Remedial Action Plan. Burlington, Ontario, 329 pp.
TARGET	Specific, attainable, quantitative, end points for indicators that determine achievement of objectives.	Fishery targets for Hamilton Harbour include: * total biomass of fish in littoral habitats - 200-250 kg/ha; * total biomass of native piscivores (e.g., northern pike, largemouth bass) - 20-25%; * percent of native species - 80-90%; * species richness - 6-7 species per survey transect; * piscivore biomass in littoral habitats - 40-60 kg/ha; * specialist (e.g., yellow perch, pumpkinseed - <u>Lepomis gibbosus</u> , alewife) biomass in littoral habitats - 70-100 kg/ha; and * generalist (e.g., carp and bullheads) biomass in littoral habitats - 30-90 kg/ha.	R.G. Randall and V.W. Cairns, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, 867 Lakeshore Road Burlington, Ontario L7R 4A6 Canada

Acronyms

AOC - Areas of Concern
BIA - Biodiversity Investment Area
BOD - Biological Oxygen Demand
BUI - Beneficial Use Impairment
DELT - Deformities, erosion, lesions and tumors
FCGO - Fish Community Goals and Objectives
FFG - Functional Feeding Groups
GIS - geographic information system
GLFC - Great Lakes Fishery Commission
GLWQA - Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement
IBI - Index of Biotic Integrity
IJC - International Joint Commission
IUCN - International Union for the Conservation of Nature
LaMP - Lakewide Management Plan
MMP - Marsh Monitoring Program
NOAA - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NOAEL - No observed adverse effect level
PBT -Persistent, Bioaccumulative, and Toxic Chemicals
RAP - Remedial Action Plan
SOLEC - State of the Lakes Ecosystem Conference